

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/633,193

Examiner

Edwin A. León

Applicant(s)

KUO ET AL.

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-- Th MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Interview Summary of 1/2/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 31 July 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.
5. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
 - (a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
6. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

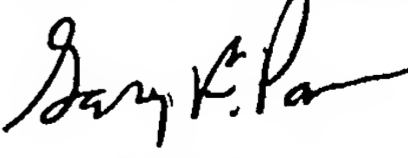
7. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
8. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No. _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed _____, which has been approved by the Examiner.
 - (c) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the margin according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

9. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. <u>010203</u> . |
| 3 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No. <u>073103</u> | 7 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | 8 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Other |


Gary K. P...
Primary Examiner

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Wei Te Chung on January 2, 2004.

The application has been amended as follows:

On Claim 1, Line 11 after "contacts", please add --, a shell having an elongated main portion covering the insulative housing and a side portion extending sidewardly from the main portion, a pivot, and wherein the latch comprises a retaining portion extending from the engaging portion thereof, the pivot extending through the side portion of the shell and the retaining portion of the latch to pivotally connect the latch and the shell, the shell comprises an upper plate, a lower plate and a connecting portion connecting the upper and lower plates, and wherein the insulative housing and the latch are both sandwiched between the upper and lower plates, the resilient portion of the latch comprises an inclined section obliquely extending from the engaging portion and away from the insulative housing, and a spring tab bearing against the insulative housing, the driving portion of the pull member has an abutting section abutable with

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the inclined section of the resilient portion, the pull member comprises an arm portion between the pull portion and the driving portion, and wherein the driving portion comprises a limiting section bending from the abutting section and, together with a section of the arm portion, sandwiching the inclined section of the latch therebetween, a plane where the driving portion lies is oriented at an angle with respect to a plane where the pull portion and the arm portion lie, the side portion of the shell defines a slot therein, and wherein the abutting section is movably received in the slot, the slot extends along a direction substantially perpendicular to an elongated direction of the shell, the engaging portion is formed with a claw section at a front end thereof for latching with a mating connector, the insulative housing comprises a base portion and a tongue portion extending from the base portion, and wherein the contacts are retained in the base portion and exposed in the tongue portion, a pivot, and wherein the insulative housing comprises a projection formed from a side thereof, and wherein the latch comprises a retaining portion extending from the engaging portion thereof, the pivot extending through the retaining portion of the latch and the projection of the insulative housing to pivotally connect the latch and the shell. –

Please cancel Claims 2-22.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claim 1 is allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Bowen et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,085,596) discloses a cable end connector assembly (20) comprising: a cable end connector (22, 24) comprising a thin insulative housing (22, 24), a plurality of contacts (206) received in the insulative housing (22, 24), a latch (278) beside the insulative housing (22, 24), and a pull member (262) comprising a driving portion (264, 266) engageable with the latch (278) and a cable (26) comprising a plurality of wires (26A) connected with the corresponding contacts (206). See Figs. 1-5E.

Hashiguchi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,099,346) discloses a cable end connector assembly comprising: a cable end connector comprising a thin insulative housing (12), a plurality of contacts (13) received in the insulative housing (12), a pull member (14) comprising a driving portion (21) and a cable (11) comprising a plurality of wires (inside 11) connected with the corresponding contacts (13). See Figs. 1-12.

Tojo (U.S. Patent No. 6,015,310) discloses a cable end connector assembly comprising: a cable end connector comprising a thin insulative housing (3), a plurality of contacts (2) received in the insulative housing (3), a latch (28) beside the insulative housing (3) and comprising an engaging portion (28a), and a pull member (4) and a cable (30) comprising a plurality of wires (inside 30) connected with the corresponding contacts (2). See Figs. 1-20.

However, the references fail to teach, disclose, or suggest, either alone or in combination, the side portion of the shell defines a slot therein, and wherein the abutting section is movably received in the slot, the slot extends along a direction substantially perpendicular to an elongated direction of the shell, the engaging portion is formed with

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a claw section at a front end thereof for latching with a mating connector, the insulative housing comprises a base portion and a tongue portion extending from the base portion, and wherein the contacts are retained in the base portion and exposed in the tongue portion and in combination with the rest of the limitations of the base claim.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Olsson et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,379,608), Shinohara et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,387,124), Wu et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,183,281), Hu et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,980,308), Obayashi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,871,369), and Ko et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,139,363) disclose cable en connector assemblies having, latches, pull members and cables.

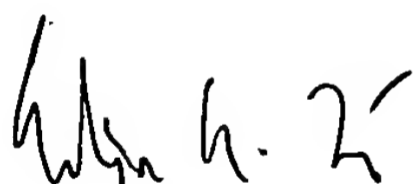
4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Edwin A. León whose telephone number is (703) 308-6253. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 10:00-6:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paula A. Bradley can be reached on (703) 308-2319. The fax phone

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number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.



Edwin A. Leon
AU 2833

EAL
January 3, 2004


Gary Paunton
Primary Examiner